

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 NEA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 NIC-01 DRC-01 /150 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8560

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDOCOSOUTH

USEUCOM

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 936

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, CY

SUBJECT: ISSUE OF NATIONAL GUARD

REF: NICOSIA 897 AND 883

SUMMARY: GOCYPRUS-INSPIRED PRESS CAMPAIGN AGAINST
NATIONAL GUARD (NG) CONTINUES WITH NEW FOCUS ON CERTAIN
BAD OFFICERS VICE WHOLE OFFICER CORPS. TETENES COMMENT
DID NOT RPT NOT DAMPEN PUBLIC DEBATE ON NG. END SUMMARY

1. LOCAL GREEK PRESS PROMINENTLY CARRIED GOGREECE
FONMIN TETENES' MAY 18 STATEMENT CONDEMNING
ARMS THEFT AND EXPRESSING REGRET THAT SECTION OF GREEK
PRESS HAS LAUNCHED INTO "GENERAL CRITICISMS AND IRRESPONSIBLE
ACCUSATIONS" AGAINST GREEK OFFICERS. GENERALLY, RIGHTIST PRESS
FOCUSED APPROVINGLY ON SECOND HALF OF STATEMENT, WHILE LEFTIST
AND PRO-GOVT PRESS DWELT ON INADEQUACY OF FIRST HALF.
INDICATIVELY, PRO-GOVT "PHILELEFTHEROS" (WHICH HAS SPEAR-
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HEADED ANTI-NG CAMPAIGN) THREW RHETORICAL QUESTIONS AT

TETENES RE NG OFFICER MISDEEDS.

2. LEFTIST PRESS CONTINUES AGITATE FOR GOCYPRUS TO ASSUME CONTROL OF NG, THOUGH MOST PAPERS HAVE SHIFTED ASSAULT TO PARTICULAR GREEK OFFICERS IN LIEU OF ENTIRE NG OFFICER CORPS. SEVERAL MAY 20 PAPERS PREDICT ATHENS WILL RECALL CERTAIN NG OFFICERS.

3. OVER PAST WEEK, ENOSIST AND NATIONALIST GROUPS (INCLUDING LABOR FEDERATION SEK) HAVE BEGUN COUNTERCAMPAIGN TO DEFEND NG INTEGRITY. GRIVASITE ESEA ISSUED STATEMENT MAY 19, RE-ITERATING EXTREME VIEW THAT NG SERVES GREEK INTERESTS ON ISLAND AND THUS SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BE UNDER GOCYPRUS.

4. IN CONTEXT CURRENT DEBATE, MAKARIOS COMMENT TO GERMAN PAPER (FBIS 171853Z) THAT "CERTAIN CIRCLES OF ATHENS" (BUT NOT RPT NOT GOGREECE) SUPPORT EOKA-B WILL KEEP MATTERS STIRRED UP. SO, TOO, WILL EXPECTED FLAMBOYANT DEBATE IN HOUSE WHICH HAS VOTED TO DEBATE YEROSKIPOS ARMS THEFT IN TERMS IMPACT ON "NATIONAL ISSUE."

5. COMMENT: GOCYPRUS HAS ORCHESTRATED MAJOR PRESS CAMPAIGN AGAINST NG WHILE ITSELF AVOIDING PUBLIC COMMENT. NEW FOCUS ON MISDEEDS OF CERTAIN BAD APPLES IN NG BARREL REPRESENTS SLIGHT MODIFICATION, BUT NOT RPT NOT RETREAT FROM GOAL WHICH APPEARS INCLUDE AT LEAST SYMBOLIC RECALL SOME OFFICERS (PAPADAKIS?). END COMMENT.
GRANT

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